

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-05 NSCE-00 L-02

PRS-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 INRE-00 /051 R

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NEA/INS:BWBROWN

S/S: JMEALUM

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O R 150009Z MAR 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058326

TOSEC 550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJECT: INDO-PAK RELATIONS

1. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR YAQUB CALLED ON ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER MARCH 14. AFTER EXPRESSING REGRET OVER TIKKA KHAN INTERVIEW ON ARMS (SEPTTEL), YAQUB WENT ON TO DISCUSS BHUTTO EFFORTS TO CONVINCE INDIANS THAT PAKISTAN DID NOT SEEK AN ARMS RACE AND WISHED TO CONTINUE THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS.

2. YAQUB READ PORTIONS OF BHUTTO LETTER TO MRS. GANDHI DATED FEB. 25. BHUTTO STRESSED THAT ARMS DECISION SHOULD  
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NOT IMPEDE NORMALIZATION AND THAT NEGOTIATIONS COULD IN

FACT BETTER PROCEED IN CONDITIONS WHERE PAKISTAN'S LIMITED DEFENSE NEEDS WERE BEING MET. PAKISTAN WANTED TO CONTINUE THESE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS OF SOVEREIGNTY, EQUALITY AND NON-INTERFERENCE. BHUTTO POINTED OUT HE HAD NOT ALLOWED INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION TO UPSET THE SIMLA PROCESS DESPITE VERY REAL CONCERNS RAISED IN PAKISTAN BY THIS DEVELOPMENT. SIMILARLY, HE DID NOT WANT THE GANDHI-ABDULLAH KASHMIR SETTLEMENT TO INTERRUPT NEGOTIATIONS ALTHOUGH THIS WAS AN ISSUE THAT WAS FELT VERY DEEPLY BY PAKISTANIS. AS

PROOF OF HIS SINCERITY BHUTTO TOLD MRS. GANDHI HE WISHED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO NEW DELHI TO SORT OUT THE CIVIL AIR QUESTION. DELEGATION WOULD BE READY TO GO WHENEVER THE INDIANS WISHED TO RECEIVE THEM.

3. YAQUB SAID BHUTTO HAD PERSONALLY CALLED HIM A WEEK OR TEN DAYS AGO WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO EMPHASIZE IN WASHINGTON BHUTTO'S COMMITMENT TO INDO-PAK NORMALIZATION. BHUTTO SAID HE REMAINED FIRM IN THIS DESPITE THE STRONG REACTION IN PAKISTAN ON THE KASHMIR ISSUE.

4. SOBER ASKED WHETHER WE MIGHT SHARE THIS REAFFIRMATION OF PAKISTANI POLICY WITH OUR EMBASSY IN NEW DELHI AND WITH THE GOI. SOBER ALSO ASKED WHETHER AMBASSADOR THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO SHARE WITH GOI YAQUB'S CLARIFICATION OF GOP POLICY ON ARMS QUESTION (SEPTTEL). YAQUB SAID HE THOUGHT THESE APPROACHES WOULD BE HELPFUL, REMARKING HE WAS SURE BHUTTO DID NOT WANT INDIANS TO BELIEVE THAT TIKKA KHAN INTERVIEW REFLECTED GOP INTENTIONS.

5. FOR NEW DELHI: YOU SHOULD CONVEY TO APPROPRIATE MFA OFFICIALS THAT GOP CONTINUES TO STRESS IN ITS CONVERSATIONS WITH US BHUTTO'S DETERMINATION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH SIMLA PROCESS, AS SUGGESTED IN BHUTTO'S LETTER TO MRS. GANDHI. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT WE HAVE WELCOMED THOSE REAFFIRMATIONS AND THAT WE HOPE BOTH GOVERNMENTS CAN PROCEED WITH CONCRETE STEPS TOWARD FURTHER NORMALIZATION OF THEIR RELATIONS. YOU SHOULD ALSO DRAW ON SUBSTANCE OF PARA 2 OF SEPTTEL REGARDING CLARIFICATION OF GOP VIEWS ON ARMS POLICY, EMPHASIZING THE POINT THAT THE GOP HOPES TO PURCHASE

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WEAPONS WITH A DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY SUCH AS ANTI-TANK AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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